



St. Patrick's R.C. Primary School - Newsletter

3rd March 2023

Tel: 0161-834-9004

Weekend Masses: Vigil Mass - Saturday, 6.30 p.m. at St. Malachy's

9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. (signed for the deaf) at St. Patrick's

Parish Website: <https://stpatricksliveseyst.yolasite.com/>

School Website: www.st-patricks.manchester.sch.uk

Facebook page: [St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Primary School, Manchester](https://www.facebook.com/St.Patrick'sRomanCatholicPrimarySchoolManchester)



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

If there is any parent who wishes their child to be baptised, please contact the Parish Priest of the parish in which you live. If you live within the boundaries of this parish, please see Canon Paul after one of the weekend Masses listed above. Alternatively, Canon Paul can be contacted on 07764791889 or at Paul.Daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Our Statement to live by when we return is:

"IN LENT...I UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF PEACE."

DURING LENT...WE PRAY: We have now entered the solemn season of Lent when we are asked to do 3 things to help us prepare for the wonderful feast of Easter: Pray, fast, give. This week, we are focussing on our own prayers so that we can go grow closer to God. Father Paul and Father Moses invited our families to an early 8.15 a.m. Mass yesterday in church! Thank you to our parents, grandparents and parishoners who were able to attend. We will be having Mass each Thursday morning at 8.15 a.m. so set your alarm for an early start and come closer to God! Everyone is very welcome to join us.



They saw his glory



SHOW ENCOURAGEMENT: There are times when we all need encouraging: that is, to be inspired with courage and to have our hope renewed, especially when we are going through difficult times. The snapshot of Jesus' glory in this Sunday's Gospel was an encouragement to the three disciples. For the first time they received a glimpse of the awesome divinity of Jesus. But soon they would go through difficult times and see Jesus crucified. So beforehand, God tells them to listen to Jesus and allows them to see Jesus for who he really is. Following Jesus isn't easy: it never was. But if, like the disciples, we too listen to Jesus, we will experience the encouragement that God offers freely to each one of us - today.

"With God we can do great things. Jesus is always ready to encourage and support us." (Pope Francis)

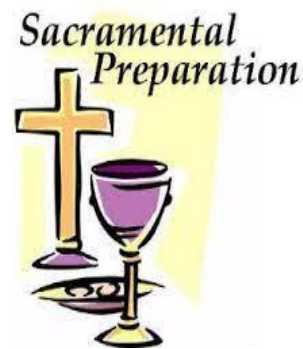
PRAYER AND WORSHIP: The next Mass will be a whole school Mass to celebrate the life of our patron saint - St. Patrick! So this will be on **Friday, 17th March** in church at the usual time of 9:15 a.m. As always, parents/carers are welcome to come along and join the celebration.



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS: The attendance figures for each class for the last week of half term can be found in the table below. Today, the class with the highest attendance for February was revealed so well done to Year 3 who enjoyed a well-deserved ice-cream party this afternoon. The slate has now been wiped clean for March so please continue to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (Here, Every day, Ready and On time). Please help us to do our job by keeping us informed if your child is going to be absent from school. Thank you parents/carers for your continued support and cooperation.

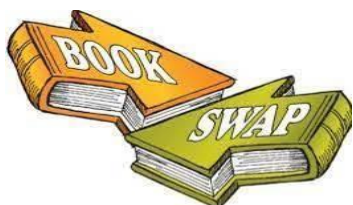
Nursery: 95.3%	Reception: 88.6%	Year 1: 87.1%	Year 2: 90.6%
Year 3: 94.8%	Year 4: 96.2%	Year 5: 94.4%	Year 6: 93.2%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 92.2%			

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: Please can the parents of pupils who are completing the Sacramental Programme make a note of the following dates and times. Parents, you will need to be at church at 6.45 p.m. on



Tuesday, 7 th March - 7:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation Service at St. Patrick's Church
Sunday, 18 th June - 9:30 a.m.	First Holy Communion Mass at St. Patrick's Church
Wednesday 21 st June - 9.30 a.m.	First Holy Communion Mass with the whole school, photographs & party day

BABY NEWS: We've had 2 brand new sparkling little babies joining the St. Patrick's family recently and we are delighted to share such wonderful news with you. Firstly, baby Susan - Malachy and Hazel are proud older brother and sister and we know they'll be doing lots to help mum. Well done children! Also Kaleb (Y5) welcomed a baby brother, Acer. Both mum and baby are doing really well. Kaleb is welcoming the new independence and is happy to help around the house and is getting his own breakfast & doing additional house chores. Well done Kaleb!



READING TOP TIP: Our top tip this week is: **SWAP A BOOK.** Encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other - it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading. Obviously, make sure that children have finished with their book first and ensure that the adults agree that it's okay to do a swap!!

HERE TO HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING: If you are struggling with the increases in food and energy bills and are struggling financially, help is available by phoning the cost of living advice line on 0800 023 2692.

This free telephone line offers support with:

- Benefits and help with your rent
- Advice about debt and paying bills
- Food support - help to find community food provision near you
- Help to get online - support to access the internet, laptops, phones and data.

The line is open Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Translations and Sign Video services are available upon request.



LENTEN FUNDRAISING: Today, we returned to the traditional 'Rainbow Friday' in order to raise money for the Caritas Lenten Appeal. The annual appeal raises money for children, mums and dads across the Diocese of Salford who need help. Not everyone has the things they need to make a happy home, but Caritas, through the St Joseph's Penny Appeal, reaches out to those vulnerable children and families in our communities. They offer support in lots of different ways-from food parcels to counselling sessions, from Christmas presents to giving young mums and their babies somewhere safe to live; Caritas means something different to everyone we help. This week, we sent home small collection boxes for each family so that the children can put any spare change in for the duration of Lent. Thank you so much for your generous donations and we'll keep you all posted with how much we raise with a weekly totaliser from next week!

INDUSTRIAL STRIKE ACTION-WEDNESDAY, 15th + THURSDAY, 16th MARCH 2023: Parents, please be aware of the dates that teachers who are members of the NEU union are planning to take further strike action. Please look out for a letter via email giving further details of the classes affected. But, just to give as much advance notice as we can, we anticipate the following:

Date	Classes open	Classes closed
Wednesday, 15 th March	Rec, Y1, Y3, Y5	Nur, Y2, Y4, Y6
Thursday, 16 th March	Rec, Y1, Y5, Y6	Nur, Y2, Y3, Y4

GIRLS' FOOTBALL: The girls' football team were out and about on Monday evening - taking part in a tournament at MCA. The team played 4 games, winning 1, drawing 2 and losing 1 game. This meant that the girls finished third in their group! It was lovely to see how humble each player was when they won a game and how they sportingly shook hands with the opposition after each game. The girls were fantastic ambassadors for our school!



CURRICULUM NEWS: It's been a really busy start to this half term already with the children starting some of their new topics! To highlight just a few examples....The Nursery children were able to do some fabulous maths work as they counted on and back within 6 as well as some science work related to the life cycle of a chick! The Year 2 class started their next music topic and have been listening and appraising a nonsense song called 'Zoo time.' They have explored tempo and pitch and applied their skills to playing the glockenspiels using the notes C and G. The Year 3 children used clay to create some Roman pottery and built upon their sketching skills learnt in Year 2 to add shading and texture whilst drawing Roman pottery. Check out our Facebook page to see what your child's class has been up to.

WORLD BOOK DAY: What a fantastic success yet again this year! Our theme was....'**Not all heroes wear capes!**' and the staff were blown away by the creativity and thought that had gone into making the costumes this year. It was lovely to see that the children were able to recognise famous people, who are now household names, that have done heroic things in the past or present. Many they have read about in books and were able to talk about why these characters have inspired them. But what was even nicer to see was that the children were able to recognise the heroes around them in their every day lives. We had children and staff dressed up as medical professionals, police officers, charity workers, activists, armed services personnel, volunteers, builders...the list was endless! Well done to the winners in each class and we hope all of the children enjoy spending their £1 book token on a book of their choice. Thank you parents/carers for helping us to bring World Book Day to life!



PACKED LUNCHES: We pride ourselves on being a healthy school and therefore we have always pledged that meals in school should be healthy meals. In the past, we have done workshops with parents who prefer to provide their child with a packed lunch. This is entirely parental choice. We ask, that parents work with us to ensure that, like the children who have school meals, our packed lunch children also have a healthy lunch. For example, all parents and children have always known that fizzy drinks are not allowed as part of a packed lunch; only water or milk. Sweet treats should be kept to an absolute minimum of one small treat in the packed lunch.

WATER BOTTLES: This is a gentle reminder for everyone really. Let's work together to ensure that our children are remembering to be hygienic. Staff are finding that water bottles are being left in school over the weekends and during holidays. Children need to bring them home and get them washed out with hot and soapy water. Let's keep the those germs and bugs at bay!



SCHOOL UNIFORM & P.E. KITS: Another gentle reminder to children and parents. Children are expected to have their school P.E. kit in school every day ready for their P.E. lessons. This consists of a yellow t-shirt and either black or green shorts.



FACEBOOK: If you aren't doing so already, please 'like' our page on Facebook so you can keep up to date with all of the latest news! Teachers will be posting about what the class are up to during the week and they'll post photos also! Search us as **St. Patrick's Manchester** and we should pop up!

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Sister Philomena Jordan (RIP) and family, the Presentation Sisters, Andrew Betney, baby Susan & family, baby Acer & family, Maureen Duffy and family, Josephine Ekuase, Mrs Balagizi, Margaret Williams, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, everyone affected by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, those families seeking asylum from war torn countries, Canon Paul Daly, Father Moses, Deacon Stephen, the Missionaries of Charity Brothers and all other private intentions at this time.



Encouragement for Today...

In your darkest hours,
I am there. In those
lonely places, I am
there. When you are
afraid, I am there. I will
always be with you in
every season. You are
not alone. ~Your Jesus

Stay with us, Lord... on our Lenten journey.